

Brummett, Elizabeth

From: James Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 11:44 AM
To: Brummett, Elizabeth
Subject: 2501 Inwood Pl --Opposition to Applicant's demolition request

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Dear Historic Landmark Commission Members:

I am writing to you to share concerns about the pending request to demolish the house at 2501 Inwood Place. I have followed the process closely, as my wife and I own the home adjacent to the property. We want to register our opposition to granting the demolition permit on the basis that the structure and landscaping are part of a unique mid-century era property that could be preserved and treasured, as carefully studied and reported by city staff. I especially want to highlight Mr. McMath's contributions to education, architecture and relationships with Mexico.

My wife and I were next door neighbors to Ms. Quita McMath, daughter of Hugh McMath. And before she sold the property, we had the opportunity to get to know her and hear stories about family travels to Mexico and her father's appreciation and study of Mexican art and history and his personal connections to Monterrey Tech University (Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey). Those connections led to academic summer trips to learn about Mexico's art and culture. But Mr. McMath also worked to bring Monterrey Tech's nascent architecture program into the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, a first for any Mexico institution at the time.

My personal background of growing up in northern Mexico made it easy for me to connect with Quita and her stories and travels to Mexico. While our encounter was brief, her recollections and remembrances of traveling throughout Mexico, and Monterrey in particular, were very vivid. Because of Mr. McMath's commitment to reaching across international borders to build relationships between the University of Texas and Monterrey Tech, that relationship is even deeper and more vibrant today, expanding into other academic areas like the McCombs School of Business and the School of Engineering. And as it relates to UT's School of Architecture, McMath's mission to expose students to Mexican history, culture and architecture, and connect with other universities in Mexico, including Monterrey Tech, remain an important part of the curriculum and are now led by Juan Miró, distinguished teaching professor and internationally renowned architect.

We urge the Commission to vote to preserve the historical and architectural significance of "Casa McMath".

James Taylor
[REDACTED]

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